



Arizona Department of
Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Monday October 22, 2007

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS ARREST IDENTITY THEFT SUSPECT

On Oct. 6, 2007, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Officer Will Lunt and Officer Fernando Delgado stopped a 2001 Infinity sports utility vehicle on Interstate 10 at milepost 55 near Quartzsite for an illegible license plate. During the traffic stop, the officers determined the driver of the vehicle had been involved in fraudulent schemes including forgery, possession of forged instruments and identity theft.

The driver, Heidi Buchanan, was arrested on a misdemeanor warrant out of Gila County. During the investigation, Officer Lunt located a small amount of marijuana in Buchanan's purse. Officer Lunt also found a fake Arizona driver's license, a list of items used in a forgery and fraudulent bar codes.

The investigation also revealed social security cards, resident alien cards, Department of Economic Security identification and blank check sheets. Various pieces of paper containing names, addresses, social security numbers, bank account, pin and credit card numbers were also found. A computer, containing software associated with forgery, was also found.

The fraudulent schemes and identity theft are under investigation by DPS Criminal Investigations in Yuma. Buchanan was booked into the La Paz County Jail on felony charges and the misdemeanor warrant.

Press Contact: Sgt. Chad Hinderliter
chinderliter@azdps.gov

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Press Inquiries:

PO BOX 6638 | Phoenix, AZ 85005-6638 | www.azdps.gov | chinderliter@azdps.gov